

A STRONG MAJORITY
FOR RECIPROCITYThe Canadian House Kills Opposi-
tion's Plan for Delay by a
Vote of 112 to 70.

BALFOUR OPPOSES GREY

English Foreign Secretary De-
fends Mr. Bryce's Action—Am-
bassador's Course in Nego-
tiations for Agreement.

Ottawa, March 8.—The strength of the government's position on reciprocity was shown in a vote taken in the House to-day on a motion made to-day by R. L. Borden, leader of the Opposition, that as American action on the agreement has been delayed the matter be not taken up by the Canadian Parliament "until the electors shall have had an opportunity of passing upon its merits." The motion to defer action was supported by 70 members and opposed by 112, the government majority being 42. Only two members broke away and voted with the Opposition. They were Messrs. Sifton and Harris, who have been opposed to reciprocity from the first.

The intense interest in the situation was shown by an unusually large number of members present to vote early in the evening. "We have made a pact of honor in the name of the people of Canada with the United States to pass on this agreement as soon as we reasonably can," was the answer which the Finance Minister, Mr. Fielding, gave to R. L. Borden, leader of the Opposition, who moved to-day "that as Congress failed to carry out the reciprocity agreement, and considerable time has elapsed before Congress can deal with it at the special session, the Canadian Parliament should not proceed with the agreement until the electors shall have had an opportunity of passing upon its merits."

The motion of Mr. Borden is regarded as the first step in an opposition plan to delay ratification of the agreement by Parliament until Congress shall have finally pronounced on it.

In support of his motion Mr. Borden said that nothing would be lost by delay. "The Democrats, who were coming into power at Washington, were pledged to lower the American tariff, and it was most important for Canada to confirm the agreement at present. He read a letter of Sir William Van Horne condemning the agreement. In concluding the Opposition leader said he stood for the British Empire against the world, and within the empire he stood for Canada."

The President of the United States is keeping his compact with Canada," replied Mr. Fielding, "and he has even gone to the extraordinary step of calling an extra session of Congress to keep faith with the government of Canada. For Parliament to accept the motion made by Mr. Borden would mean that we should have violated our own honor. Shame on the suggestion! It is childish to say that each country should wait upon action by the other. It is our clear duty to go ahead and pronounce upon this agreement."

Mr. Fielding said that he believed that a majority of the United States Senators had been in favor of ratifying the agreement last session, but that its passage had been blocked by the methods of a few filibustering Senators, some of whom could never be seen again in the American Senate.

"Canada has been trapped before," said George L. Foster, a leading member of the Opposition, "into endorsing propositions which the American Senate has afterward rejected, and should not be caught again."

The debate on the resolution to ratify the agreement was resumed after the evening vote by Lloyd Harris, Liberal, who spoke against reciprocity.

London, March 8.—Every time reciprocity is mentioned in Parliament there is a warm passage at arms. Mr. Balfour, leader of the Opposition, and Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Secretary, had a brush to-day in the House of Commons over Ambassador Bryce. Mr. Balfour wanted to know what instructions had been sent to the ambassador, and why British manufacturers had not been consulted during the negotiations between the United States and Canada.

The tendency would be, said Mr. Balfour, for the Americans to put pressure on Canada to raise the duties against the United Kingdom. "The only bright spot," he added, "was Premier Laurier's reiterated wish for imperial preference. This question isn't dead in Canada, and I can assure the government it isn't dead here," he exclaimed warmly.

The Foreign Secretary replied that the government had not sent any instructions to Ambassador Bryce, and did not propose to do so, except to endorse entirely everything he had done. The manufacturers, he said, had not been consulted because both parties to the agreement were desirous of secrecy.

Ambassador Bryce's reports to the Foreign Office on the subject of the United States and Canadian reciprocity negotiations were issued in a White Paper to-day. The most interesting communication is under date of January 22, the day following the conclusion of the agreement. In this the British diplomat says:

"As at present advised, I am disposed to believe that British interests are not in any appreciable extent prejudiced. No opportunity was lost in the course of the negotiations of reminding the Canadian ministers of the regard which it was right and fitting that they should have to the imperial interests."

The arrangement still rests, in reality, on a growing realization of the fact that a high tariff wall between neighboring countries whose products are economically interchangeable, is an injury to both and opposed to sound fiscal principles.

"In so far as the arrangement oversteps this basis, it is probably influenced."

HARVARD GETS SKIM MILK

Contractor So Testifies at Legis-
lative Hearing in Boston.

Boston, March 8.—Skim milk is being served to Harvard students in the dining halls, according to William A. Graustein, a milk contractor, who was a witness at a legislative hearing on the milk question to-day. Mr. Graustein supplied one of the dining halls until March 1 last. He said that he knew that his statement was correct, for the reason that the steward had told him so and also from his own bills.

One of the lawyers present at the hearing, who is counsel for the Massachusetts Milk Consumers' Association, announced that he would bring the matter to the attention of the Harvard authorities.

A DRUNKARDS' BLACKLIST

Some of the Best Known Lehigh
Citizens Are On It.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]
Allentown, Penn., March 8.—Lehigh County established a "drunkards' blacklist" to-day, when each saloonkeeper and hotel proprietor received a printed list of thirty men who have been put in the habitually intemperate class. They were warned not to sell liquor to any member of the fraternity of two-faced fellows under penalty of revocation of their licenses.

The blacklist contains the names of some of the county's best known citizens. It was compiled by prominent citizens who are seeking to improve conditions in Lehigh County, especially as regards the sale of liquor.

THUNDERBOLT FOR TAMMANY

Bronx County Bill Gets Out of
Committee to Its Chagrin.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]
Albany, March 8.—For the first time in the very long period in which it has been making its appearance here, the bill to erect the county of the Bronx is out of committee. Its being out of committee means that there will be considerable adroit maneuvering on the part of numerous Tammany Democrats to escape taking a position on it, and Senator White, chairman of the committee which reported it, is having much trouble to explain to the "organization" leaders how it happened to get away from him.

Senator Stilwell introduced the bill this year. Senator White, chairman of the Internal Affairs Committee, hails from Schenectady, and is not acquainted with the fine points of New York City's political ballistics. So, he says, when Senator Stilwell told him it was an organization measure and everybody was for it, he had it reported promptly. Senator Wagner, temporary president, was thunderstruck when he heard the clerk read the report.

"What is that?" he gasped. "Oh, here; you can't report that, you know."

White in three minutes had more points about politics and geography in New York County poured out on him than in all his previous existence. Senator Wagner tried to have the bill re-committed, but Stilwell protested vigorously.

"That bill is out of committee now, and I am going to have a line-up on it," he shouted. Present indications are that he will, too, unless the "organization" uses some of its biggest big sticks on him in the way of moral suasion.

DOCTOR STRANGELY SHOT.

Assailed in Doorway, Dies Hours
Later in Hospital.

Suffering from bullet wounds which he received in a mysterious shooting in his house, Dr. Eugene Post, of No. 19 Catherine street, was taken to the New York Hospital by two friends last night, and died a few hours later. Dr. Post was taken to the hospital in a closed carriage at 7 o'clock. He said that at 4 o'clock he had gone into the hall at his house and had been fired upon by two men. Two shots struck him in the abdomen and a third lodged in his right hip.

He could not explain why the men had fired at him, nor why he had waited so long before getting aid. A short time after he was placed on the operating table a man, who said he was Lieutenant Morrison of the Madison street station, asked the hospital authorities over the telephone what Dr. Post's condition was. According to the police, there is no Lieutenant Morrison at that station and they have no record of a shooting. Detective Griffin, of the Central Office, was assigned to investigate the matter.

There seemed to be a good deal of underground information in Chinatown about the case last night, much in advance of the official information. It was known in the Mott and Doyers streets resorts at 11:30 o'clock that Post was dead, but the Coroner's Office did not hear of it until 12:35 a. m., and the police of the Madison street station learned of it still later.

AUTO CRUSHED BY CARS

Caught Between Trolleys, and Two
Men Are Injured.

Charles J. Robinson, of No. 37 East 134 street, chauffeur for Louis A. Lehman, of No. 366 West End avenue, proprietor of a restaurant, was driving Louis A. Lehman's car, east in Amsterdam avenue about 8 o'clock last evening, when, at 134 street, he attempted to cross the tracks. A northbound car struck the automobile from the rear, and a southbound car caught it in front, wedging the machine between the cars and wrecking it. Robinson was thrown into the wreckage and Lehmans into the street.

Passengers of both cars made frantic attempts to reach the street, thinking that both men had been killed. Patrolman Mac-Rail, riding a taxicab, sent the two men to St. Luke's Hospital. There Dr. Mac-Cormack found both men suffering from lacerations of the face and head and shock. Lehmans went home, but Robinson remained. No arrests were made.

RUSH ORDER FOR 500 MULES.

St. Louis, March 8.—An order for 500 mules in St. Louis immediately was received from Washington late yesterday by Major W. M. Coulter, department quartermaster. Mules have been ordered.

AFTER THE GRIPPE

Deaths of Port White and Olive Oil.
H. T. Dewey & Sons Co., 125 Fulton st., N. Y.
Advt.

MAP OF THE MEXICAN BORDER AND STRATEGIC POINTS.

The United States troops are being concentrated at San Diego, San Antonio and Galveston, all on the lines of the Southern Pacific Railroad, from which system branch off the three Mexican roads, Central, National and International, which are crippled by the raids of the insurgents. The United States warships are to assemble off San Diego and Galveston.

CONFERENCE TO BOOM
SHEEHAN PROVES FROSTTwenty-one Upstate Legislators
Solemnly Propose to Stick
to Candidate.

NO ENTHUSIASM SHOWN

Meeting Planned by Ardent Fol-
lowers to Adopt Flaming Res-
olutions to Impress Murphy
of Sheehan's Strength.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]

Albany, March 8.—Upstate legislators who have been voting for William F. Sheehan for United States Senator held a conference to-day, solemnly declaring that their support of Mr. Sheehan was in accordance with their notion of the best interests of the state and their party, and adjourned. Their conference, though not nearly so large, was quite as devout and exactly as fruitless of anything but words as was that celebrated conference of both elements in the Democracy which failed some time ago to pick the compromise candidate.

This meeting was planned by ardent supporters of Mr. Sheehan, who admit that he is the embodiment of the sacred principle of majority rule, to adopt flaming resolutions and otherwise impress on "Boss" Murphy of Tammany and the rest of the state the great strength of their candidate. It was hoped that enough Sheehanites could be induced to sign an agreement to vote for nobody but the aforesaid sacred embodiment under any conditions to tie up any future caucus and produce a deadlock from the other end of Democracy if Tammany threw over Sheehan.

As a showing of Sheehan strength the meeting was lamentable. No torrid resolutions were adopted. No clarion call for support for Sheehan on down through undying ages was sent ringing through the state. No pledges of continued fealty to Sheehan were signed. Not even discussion of compromise candidates enlivened the meeting. Like the King of France, these legislators marched up the hill and then marched down again. Several Sheehan men who had been bidden to this feast of reason had declined it in favor of a dinner party in a downtown hotel laughed long and loudly when they heard of the result of this conference.

A Statement Issued.

That result, as summed up in a formal statement given out by Assemblyman Blauvelt, one of the conferees, was as follows: "The conference was merely an exchange of views. Twenty-one men were present. No resolutions were passed, or offered, and no date was fixed for another meeting. It was the expression of those present that their support of the party choice for United States Senator was in accordance with their views of the best interests of the state and their party."

There was no discussion, Mr. Blauvelt and others said, of the signing of a pledge by Sheehan men to tie up the Legislature in a second deadlock if Murphy, of Tammany, and the insurgents should get together on a man at the conference to accomplish that if they stuck together as the insurgents have in accordance with their secret agreement against Sheehan.

Senator Hayne, of Richmond County, left the conference early. When he went he was asked if he were in sympathy with the result of the meeting, whatever it was to be.

"Oh, I don't know what the result will be," he said, "but I am in sympathy with the general discussion there."

Senator Hayne voted against Sheehan in caucus, and while he has stuck to the caucus choice since nobody ever has believed that he enjoyed the daily vote for the "sacred embodiment."

At the conference were Senators Perria, of Oneida County; Piero, of Ulster; Glittins, of Niagara; Long, of Suffolk; Murrough, of Chemung; Ramsperger, of Erie; and Raine, of Richmond. The assemblymen present were Dr. Bush, of Chemung; Blauvelt, of Rockland; Collins, of Yates; Speaker Frisbie, who left early; Gregg, of Lewis; Gunnert, of Schuyler; Jackson, of Erie; La Beau, of Erie; Manley, of Oneida; Patrie, of Greene; Seeley, of Steuben; Sheldie, of Suffolk, and Washington, of Ulster.

Six Assemblymen Absent.

Assemblymen Dawson, Hearn, Newport, Wende, and Morozinski, of Erie, and Gould, of Niagara, also were cited.

PRESIDENT DIAZ OF MEXICO.
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METZ RUNS DOWN WOMAN

Auto Strikes Her a Glancing
Blow, and He Takes Her Home.

The automobile owned and operated by Herman A. Metz, former Controller, knocked down Miss Margaret O'Neill, a stenographer, of No. 1191 Nostrand avenue, Brooklyn, last night, injuring her slightly and throwing her to the street. When he saw what had happened, Mr. Metz leaped from his machine and picked the young woman up.

Miss O'Neill had started from the westerly side of the street at Court and Montague, when the automobile came down Court street, bound for Mr. Metz's home, No. 234 Clifton avenue. Miss O'Neill became frightened by a streetcar and dodged off the track and almost directly in the way of the automobile. The hood of the machine struck her a glancing blow on the right arm, and she fell.

Mr. Metz waited while Dr. Blader, of the Long Island College Hospital, examined the girl to see if she had any broken bones. When it was found that she was injured only slightly, Mr. Metz took her home in his machine.

LIGHT ON RICE MURDER

Unnamed Witness Expected to
Tell of Black Hand Plot.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]

Cleveland, March 8.—It is expected that the mystery surrounding the murder of William L. Rice, the millionaire attorney, several months ago, will soon be cleared up. An eyewitness—an American—has been found who promises to dispel all doubt as to the identity of the murderer. The Pinkertons will name this witness until they arrest three more countrymen of Vincenzo Pelato, who was arrested last week in the West and who is now held in jail here.

According to William Nelson Cromwell, the New York attorney and friend of Rice, the arrest of Pelato was accomplished by the detectives through information furnished by members of a Black Hand gang, and the other arrests will be brought about in the same way.

JOKER STARTED \$10,000 FIRE

Touched Lighted Match to Load of Hay
and Horses Ran Away.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]
East Lynn, Mass., March 8.—Just for a joke an unknown man to-day touched a lighted match to a load of hay that was passing near the long row of barns of the Jenkins Ice Company. The horses, becoming frightened, ran down the road and turned in between two of the houses, where a workman managed to unhitch the horses, but not before the ice houses were afire on either side.

Four of the ice houses were burned. They were filled with ice, and the loss is estimated at \$10,000. At first it was claimed the fire was incendiary, but several haysees saw the stranger set fire to the hay and it was being driven slowly along the road.

TWO TOTS DIE UNSEEN

Little Red Mittens Protruding from
Hole in Ice Tell Story.

Utica, N. Y., March 8.—As a boy was passing through the Campbell estate this afternoon he saw two little red mittens protruding from a hole in the ice covering a large pond. He summoned help, and the body of John Hancock, four years old, was taken from the water.

Later a neighbor remembered seeing another little boy with John, and a party would back to the pond, and the body of John Gadzenda, five years old, was found.

A NEW EMIGRATION LAW

Austria Plans to Protect Her Emi-
grants from Abuses.

Vienna, March 8.—Answering an interpellation in the Austrian parliament to-day regarding the affairs of the Austrian emigrant home, conducted in connection with Ellis Island, New York, the Minister of Commerce, Dr. R. Welschinsky, said that the government was planning a new arrangement looking to the care of emigrants, in which various Austrian religious organizations in America would cooperate. The Minister added that he was now drafting a new emigration law which would give to emigrants aid and protection along the whole line from Austria to America and he hoped that this would end many abuses in the traffic.

MAILLARD'S VANILLA CHOCOLATE.
A dainty confection, a delicious treat.
The choice of those who know and care—
Advt.

GREAT WAR MACHINE
WORKS AT HIGH SPEEDMobilization of Troops in Texas
Shows No Lack of Pre-
paredness.

ARMY OFFICIALS PLEASED

Condition of Affairs Shows Great
Contrast with That at Begin-
ning of Spanish War—Credit
Given to General Staff.

Washington, March 8.—The officers who set the machinery going for the great gathering of United States troops and warships from end to end of the Mexican frontier to-day drew their first long breath in thirty-six hours and sat back in their chairs in the War and Navy departments to "watch the thing work." From all directions trains are carrying soldiers, horses, field guns and ammunition toward the places of rendezvous.

Old Washingtonians to-day compared the conditions prevailing at the War and Navy departments with the turmoil and excitement which characterized the early days of the Spanish-American War. Thirty-six hours after the determination was reached to mobilize a whole division in Texas the officials were sitting tranquilly at their desks watching with quiet interest the workings of the magnificent machinery that had been so carefully built up to respond to just such an emergency as the present. The Secretary of War was busy closing up some important matters of civil administration preparatory to leaving Washington for several days. Nothing of a military nature interfered with his designs, and he was able to start late in the day for Atlanta.

Major General Wood, the chief of staff, came into town from his home at Fort Myer early in the day, and was soon busy with reports from his aids and other members of the General Staff showing what progress was being made in carrying out the plans for mobilization of the troops. These appeared to have been laid with perfection, and with the exception of sending orders to certain companies to take the place of others whose withdrawal to Texas had left some of the military posts without proper caretakers, there was little to be done.

Major General Carter, who is to command the army division in Texas, was looking after some personal correspondence and making sure that his favorite horse would be suitably cared for on the long railroad trip to Texas.

Quartermaster General's Great Task.

Nowhere was the superiority of the new state of affairs over those that existed before the Spanish war more manifest than in the quartermaster's department. General Alshire, with his deputies, was engaged in a herculean task. He was moving a body of soldiers across the country more numerous than the entire force which was gathered at Tampa, Fla., to form the American army of occupation of Cuba in 1898, yet there was no evidence to the casual observer that anything more than the mere routine of the quartermaster's department was in progress. The troops' movement was proceeding with absolute accuracy, and up to the close of business to-day not one telegram had been received by the quartermaster general to complain that anything was missing essential to the comfort of the troops or the animals on the road.

There was good reason for this, because, as the records of the quartermaster's department show, every detail of the movement had been worked out with the greatest perfection long in advance. On the desk of General Alshire and in the hands of his aids were typewritten statements showing the exact method of sending troops and supplies from every part of the United States to San Antonio, Tex. Every particle of information that might be needed by the department was included. The trunk lines, the water routes, the small feeding lines, the cars and flat box cars and other vehicles available were carefully catalogued, as was an exact record of the number of men and animals and the tons of supplies that could be handled by each carrier. For instance, it was shown that there were four separate lines of railway into San Antonio, and the number of warehouses, with the exact capacity of each, at Fort Sam Houston was indicated.

It was not asserted that all of these

TALK OF INTERVENTION
IN MEXICO INCREASESUnited States, However, Will Not Take That
Grave Step Unless It Proves To Be
Absolutely Necessary.

SITUATION GROWS MORE CRITICAL

This Government Assures Diaz Administration That It
Contemplates Neither Permanent Occupation Nor
Annexation—Meanwhile Mobilization of
Troops and Ships Proceeds Rapidly.

REPORT OF DIAZ'S DEATH.

Unconfirmed Rumor Reaches
New Orleans.

[By Telegram to The Tribune.]
New Orleans, March 8.—It is reported in New Orleans late to-night that President Diaz of Mexico died shortly after 6 o'clock.

It has been impossible up to this time to secure any affirmation or denial of the report.

TAFT REASSURES DIAZ.

Says Mexico Need Not Be
Alarmed at Texas Manoeuvres.

Mexico City, March 8.—Setting at rest rumors that America is preparing for intervention in Mexico, President Taft sent to-day to President Diaz a telegram, in which he said the military manoeuvres being conducted along the frontier in Texas have no significance which should cause concern to Mexico. The message was transmitted to the Department of Foreign Relations by F. Morris Deering, chargé d'affaires of the American Embassy, as follows:

"I have the honor to advise your excellency that I am in receipt of instructions from my government, directing me to inform his excellency, President Diaz, through the medium of your excellency, that the President of the United States wishes to express the hope that no misapprehensions will result from unfounded and sensational newspaper conjectures as to the military manoeuvres about to take place in Texas and elsewhere and to give to President Diaz assurance that the manoeuvres have no significance which should cause concern to the friendly neighbor of the United States to the south."

General Diaz sent a reply through Minister Creel and the American Embassy, acknowledging the receipt of the message and expressing gratitude "for the courtesy of explaining in such explicit terms" the situation.

A calm and dispassionate view of the mobilization appears to have been taken by Mexicans. No excitement followed the appearance of the news. Newspapers, printed in Spanish, as well as the American morning newspaper, gave much space to the details of the movement.

In some quarters, nevertheless, the explanation given out from the White House as to the significance of President Taft's order was viewed with skepticism.

This was particularly true regarding American residents, many of whom professed to see in it the first step in a move toward intervention.

Prominent Mexicans who were asked for opinions declined for the most part to talk for publication, but privately expressed confidence in the good intentions of the American government.

MILITIA OFFICERS WANTED

War Department to Invite Them
All to San Antonio.

Washington, March 8.—Militia officers of all the states will be invited to take part in the operations of the army at San Antonio. The War Department made this announcement to-night, with the statement that the invitation will be extended with a view to giving officers of the national guard practical experience in the field.

There are about eight thousand of these officers, but as the acceptance of the invitation is to be optional, it cannot be told how many will avail themselves of the opportunity.

The announcement gave rise to further speculation in connection with the unprecedented movement of troops in time of peace. The known lack of officers in the army, and the fact that the War Department has been asking Congress for more, gave ground for the conjecture that the real purpose of the invitation was to use the militia officers to command regular troops. The War Department, however, denied that the militia officers would be used to fill vacancies in command, and repeated the statement that the only purpose was instruction.

ENGLAND FAVORS ACTION

London Papers Approve Assem-
bling of Troops and Ships.

London, March 9.—That the United States cannot afford to risk being taken by surprise in the Mexican situation and that the Washington government is justified in taking precautionary measures is the general view of the London morning newspapers. "It is considered that a violent change of government is a possibility to be reckoned with, and it is pointed out that there is a strong party behind the revolutionists seeking to establish a Mexican federation of Central American republics, which would preclude the interests of the United States in Panama."

"The Morning Post" says that American governments have had a bitter experience of the embarrassment caused by lack of readiness for naval or military action when such action had become imperative. The assembling of ships and troops, adds, may therefore be a wise measure.

The tone qualities of Antediluvian Whiskey appeal to physicians. They recommend its use. Lyttles Brothers, N. Y.—Advt.

THE MEXICAN SITUATION.

Intervention a possibility, although the United States would take that step with the greatest reluctance and only in case it should prove absolutely necessary.

Mexico assured of the good will of the United States, and that neither permanent occupation nor annexation is contemplated in any event.

The situation in Mexico daily growing more critical, according to reports received in Washington.

Preparations for mobilization of twenty thousand troops on the border continuing rapidly. The camp at San Antonio nearly ready for General Carter's division.

The War Department invites all national guard officers, numbering about eight thousand, to take part in manoeuvres at San Antonio.

General Bliss arrives at San Diego to command the troops in California. Fourteen hundred coast artillerymen leave New York on their way to Texas.

A regiment of marines to sail from Philadelphia for Guantanamo to-day.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]
Washington, March 8.—The gravity of the conditions in Mexico is constantly becoming more evident, as is the seriousness of the military movement in that direction. The Mexican authorities are putting up the bravest front possible, asserting the competence of the Diaz administration to handle the situation and predicting the entire collapse of the revolution. If these predictions are verified, nothing will be more pleasing to this country. There is not the slightest desire on the part of the United States to send troops across the Mexican border, and every effort is being made to save the Diaz government from embarrassment, but, with troops and batteries marching through the streets of Washington to the railway yards, the men supplied with ball cartridges and the caissons filled with ammunition, it is proving difficult to keep up the fiction of an extraordinary mobilization of troops merely with a view to holding joint manoeuvres.

The Mexican Embassy made two statements to-day, one denying the rumor that Mexico had asked for American intervention and the other asserting that Blatt and Converse were taken prisoners on Mexican territory and not on American soil, as had been reported in some quarters.

"The health of President Diaz is excellent. The American manoeuvres have nothing to do with Mexican politics." This was a message received at the Mexican Embassy here at 10 o'clock to-night, from Enrique Creel, Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The reports which have reached this government from quarters regarded as entirely trustworthy indicate a general withdrawal of Mexican troops from Northern and Southern Mexico, with a view to the establishment of an effective cordon around the City of Mexico, leaving, of course, the outlying districts at the mercy of revolutionists and marauders. They further indicate grave conditions in the army and a serious lack of loyalty, and even cite instances of Mexican officers shot in the back by their own men. Neither the President nor the Department of State will make any predictions regarding the course of events, but there is a growing belief in Washington that it will be impossible to protect the lives and property of Americans and other foreigners without sending troops into Mexico.

No Thought of Annexation.

In connection with this the administration is naturally most impatient of predictions of annexation, references to the blowing up of the Maine, etc. It is realized, however, that if for imperative reasons troops should be sent into Mexican territory to any extent they would in all probability be detained there until a provisional government could be set up and placed on a stable basis. But even if the conditions make these steps necessary there will be no permanent occupation and no thought whatever of annexation. It is pointed out that conditions in Mexico are vastly different from those obtaining in Cuba; that the white population is sufficiently abundant and intelligent to take advantage of such an opportunity as would be offered by a provisional government and the restoration of tranquillity to establish a permanent government, and that occupation by the United States, which will be resorted to only if it becomes absolutely imperative, would not last long.

Of course, the advanced age of President Diaz, the fact that he is, if not ill, at least frail, and the further fact that the Diaz administration has been so long in power as to have alienated much support and to have made many enemies, all contribute to the anxiety of the United States; and it is felt that this administration would be most remiss if it should fail to take every precaution to insure the safety of the lives and property of all European subjects as well as those of American residents in Mexico. It is at a time like this that the responsibilities growing out of the Monroe Doctrine are felt to be peculiarly heavy, but their weight will not tend in the